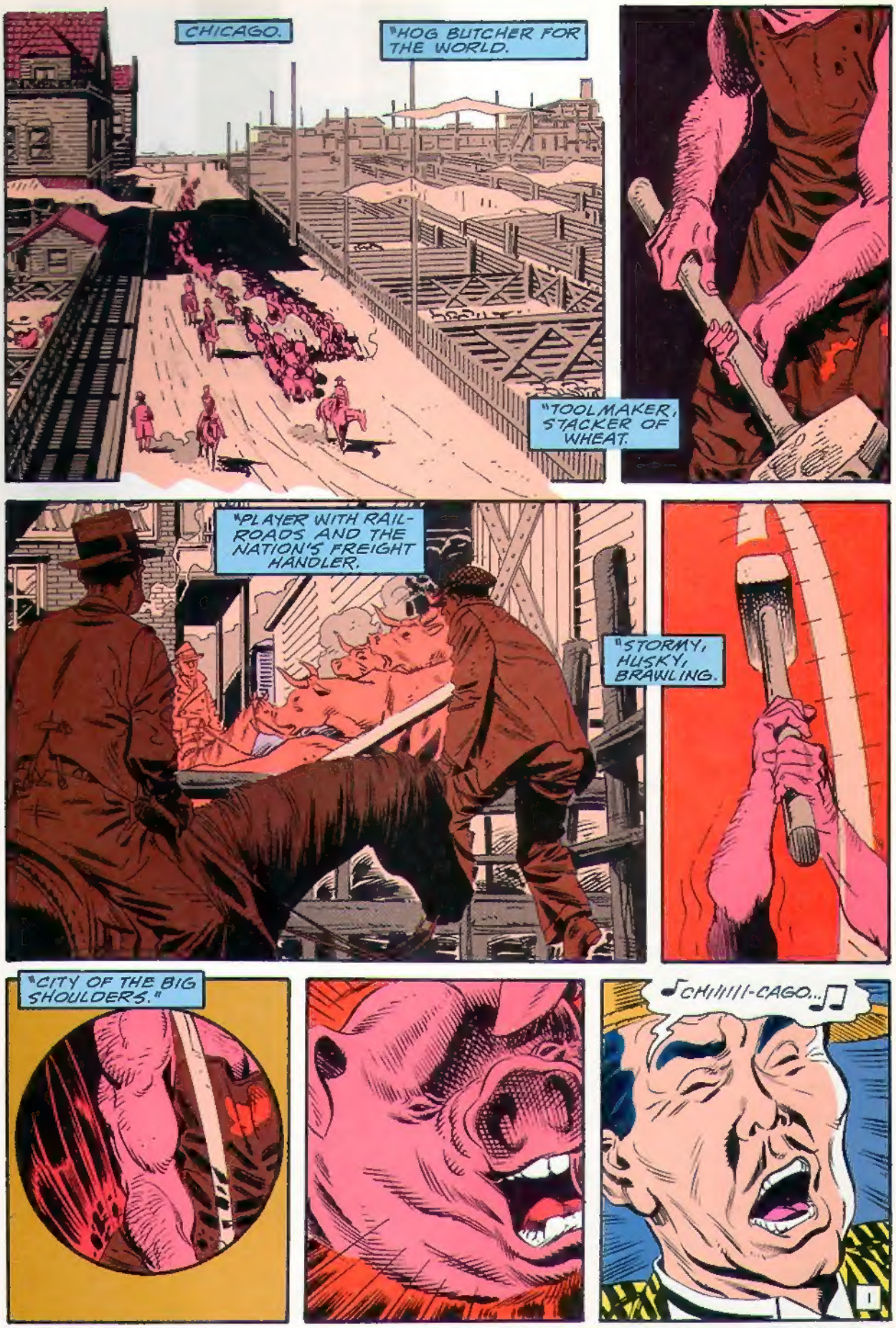
THE DARK AVENGER VS. THE CHICAGO MOB!
THE Shadow STRIKES!™
by
Gerard Jones
&
Eduardo Barreto
SHADOW STRIKES
12
SEP 90
US $1.75
CAN $2.25
UK 1£



THE SHADOW STRIKES 12 Published monthly by DC Comics Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE SHADOW STRIKES, DC Comics Subscriptions, P.O. Box 0528, Baldwin, NY 11510. Annual subscription rate $21.00, Canada $26.00, all other foreign $33.00. U.S. funds only. Copyright © 1990 The Condé Nast Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. All characters featured in this issue and distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of The Condé Nast Publications, Inc. For advertising space contact: Tom Ballou, (212) 484-2870. Printed in Canada.
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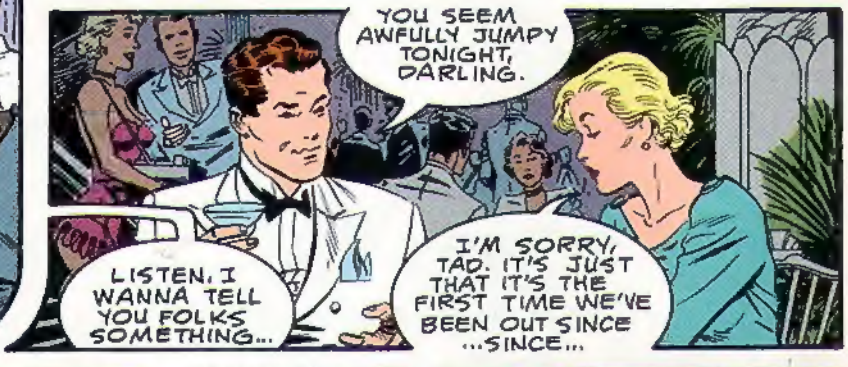
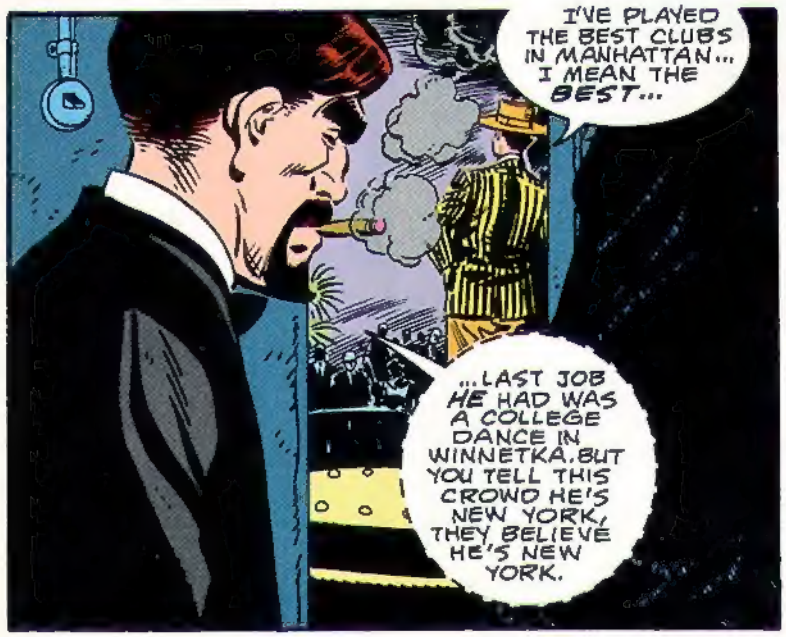
G-5759

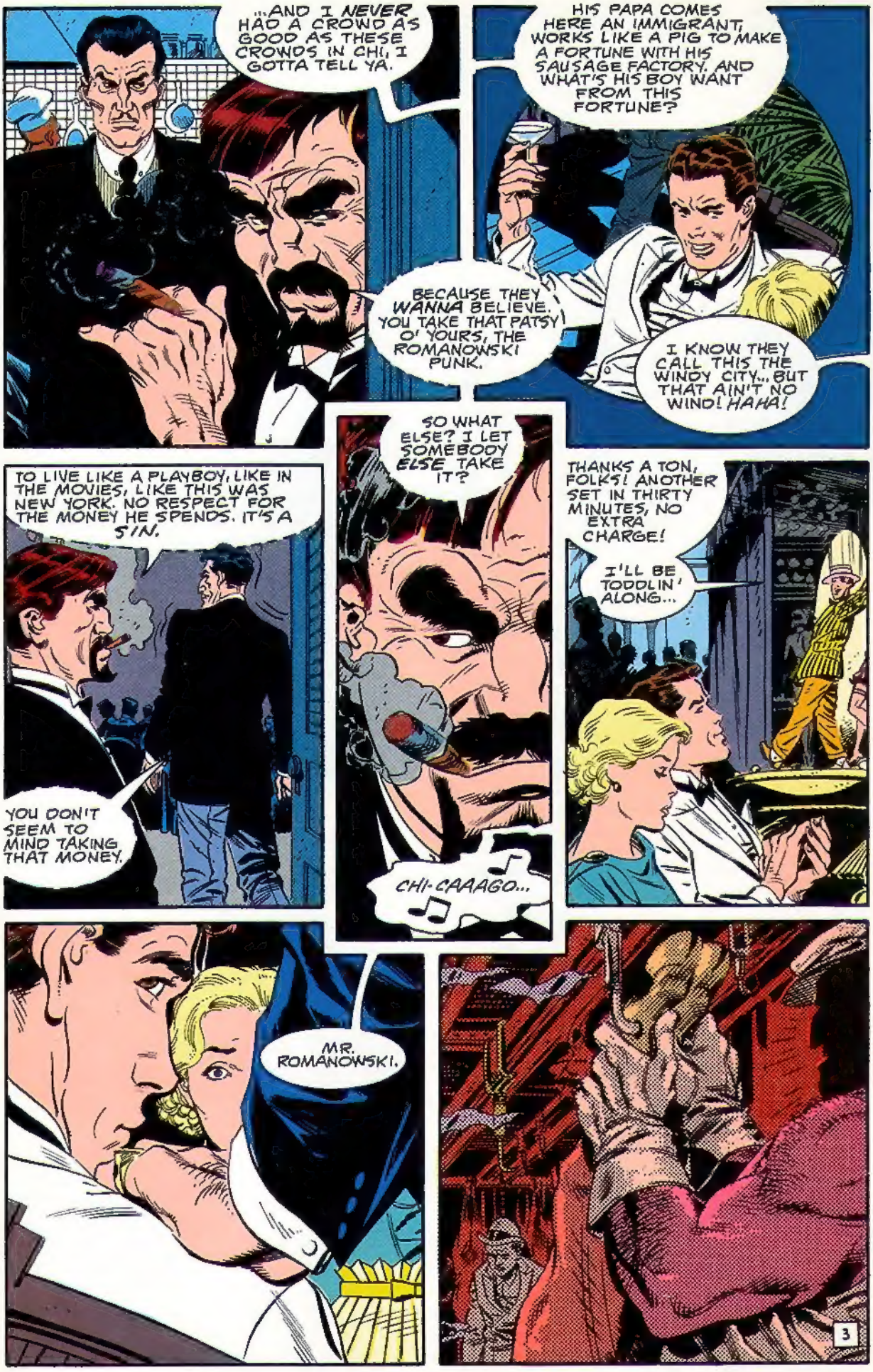
CHICAGO...YEAH, IT'S A TODDLIN' TOWN... CHI-CAGO... SAY THERE, LEMME SHOW YOU AROUN'!
SO IS THIS CLOWN REALLY FROM NEW YORK, OR WHAT?

BETCHER BOTTOM DOLLAR...
YOU!

...WILL LOSE THE BLUES IN CHICAGO...
DON'T MEAN TO STARTLE YOU, SWEETIE.
...THE TOWN THAT EVEN THAT BAD OL' BILLY SUNDAY COULDN'T SHUT DOWN...OH, YEAH...
NAW.


YOU SEEM AWFULLY JUMPY TONIGHT, DARLING.
LISTEN, I WANNA TELL YOU FOLKS SOMETHING...
I'M SORRY, TAD. IT'S JUST THAT IT'S THE FIRST TIME WE'VE BEEN OUT SINCE ...SINCE...


I'VE PLAYED THE BEST CLUBS IN MANHATTAN... I MEAN THE BEST...
...LAST JOB HE HAD WAS A COLLEGE DANCE IN WINNETKA. BUT YOU TELL THIS CROWD HE'S NEW YORK, THEY BELIEVE HE'S NEW YORK.

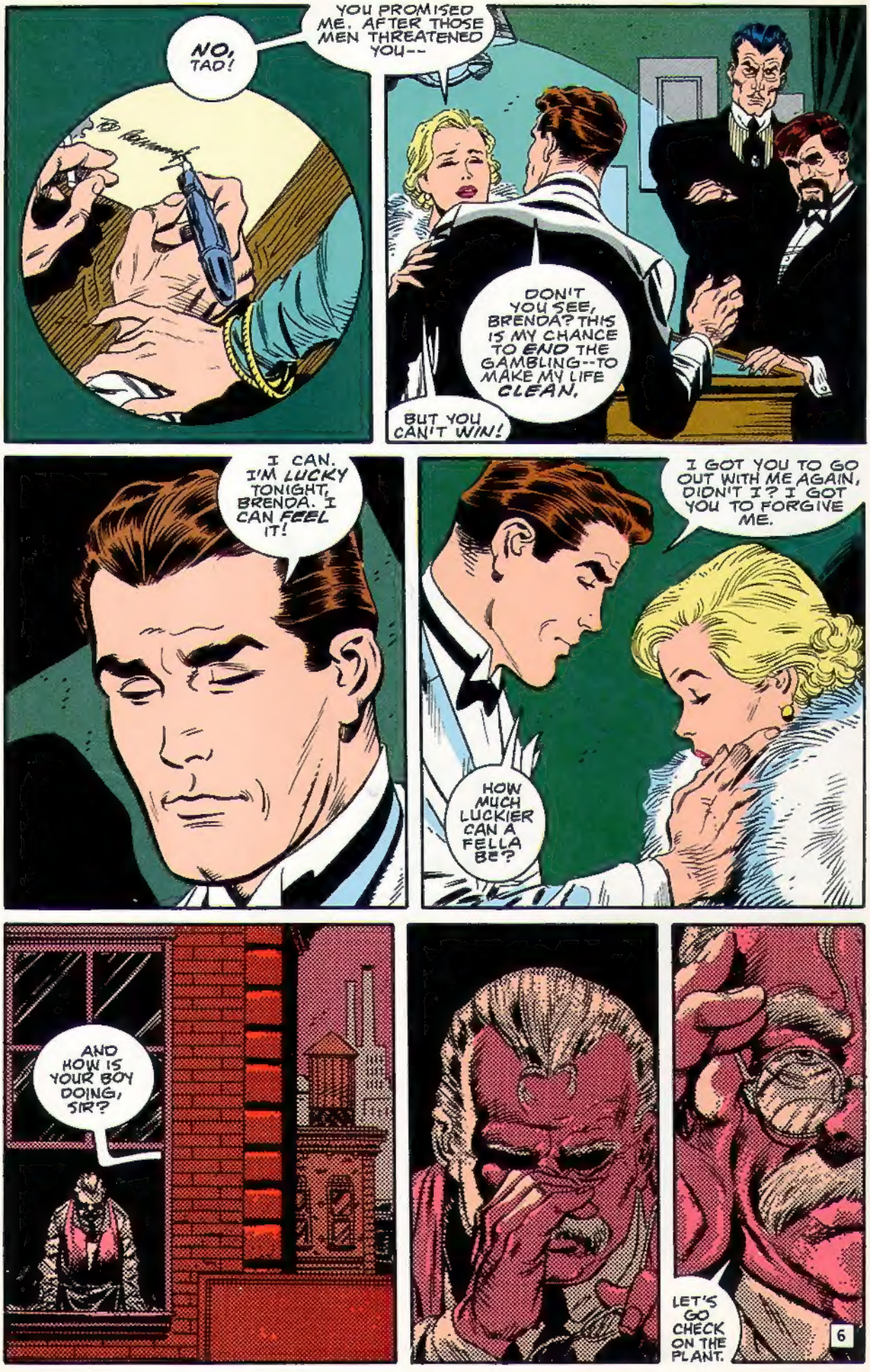

...AND I NEVER HAD A CROWD AS GOOD AS THESE CROWDS IN CHI, I GOTTA TELL YA.
HIS PAPA COMES HERE AN IMMIGRANT, WORKS LIKE A PIG TO MAKE A FORTUNE WITH HIS SAUSAGE FACTORY. AND WHAT'S HIS BOY WANT FROM THIS FORTUNE?
BECAUSE THEY WANNA BELIEVE. YOU TAKE THAT PATSY O' YOURS, THE ROMANOWSKI PUNK.
I KNOW THEY CALL THIS THE WINDY CITY... BUT THAT AIN'T NO WIND! HAHA!
TO LIVE LIKE A PLAYBOY, LIKE IN THE MOVIES, LIKE THIS WAS NEW YORK. NO RESPECT FOR THE MONEY HE SPENDS. IT'S A SIN.
YOU DON'T SEEM TO MIND TAKING THAT MONEY.
SO WHAT ELSE? I LET SOMEBODY ELSE TAKE IT?
CHI-CAAAGO...
THANKS A TON, FOLKS! ANOTHER SET IN THIRTY MINUTES, NO EXTRA CHARGE!
I'LL BE TODDLIN' ALONG...
MR. ROMANOWSKI.
3

SEEING AS HOW YOU OWE A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THIS ESTABLISHMENT, I'D LIKE TO OFFER YOU A CHANCE...
...TO SETTLE YOUR DEBT...
...ALL AT ONCE.

FROM THE SHADOW'S PRIVATE ANNALS, AS TOLD TO:
GERARD JONES · WRITER
EDUARDO BARRETO · ARTIST
HAWKEYE WORKMAN · LETTERER
ANTHONY TOLLIN · COLORIST
BRIAN AUGUSTYN · SAUSAGE KING
WITH THANKS TO MIKE GOLD
BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY WALTER GIBSON

MEATHOOKS ○ PART ONE

"THEY TELL ME YOU ARE WICKED AND I BELIEVE THEM..."
I'M SORRY I HAD TO BAR YOU FROM MY BETTER GAMING CLUBS, MR. R.
"...FOR I HAVE SEEN YOUR PAINTED WOMEN UNDER THE GAS LAMPS LURING THE FARM BOYS."
YOU KNOW HOW IT IS WHEN A CUSTOMER'S TAB GETS TOO HIGH. BUT NOBODY EVER SAID GEORGIE KATOMERIS ISN'T A SPORTING MAN.
"AND THEY TELL ME YOU ARE CROOKED AND I ANSWER: YES, IT IS TRUE I HAVE SEEN THE GUNMAN KILL AND GO FREE TO KILL AGAIN."
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO GIVE YOU A FAIR SHOT AT GETTING CLEAR... WITH NO INTEREST.
"AND THEY TELL ME YOU ARE BRUTAL AND MY REPLY IS: ON THE FACES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN I HAVE SEEN THE MARKS OF WANTON HUNGER."
YOU CAN'T JUST KEEP GIVING PRODUCT AWAY, MR. ROMANOWSKI.
WHY? THE GOVERNMENT TAKES FROM ME TAX, KEEPS MOST, GIVES THESE PEOPLE A LITTLE.
LET ME KEEP THE MONEY I MAKE. I GIVE FOOD TO THESE PEOPLE.

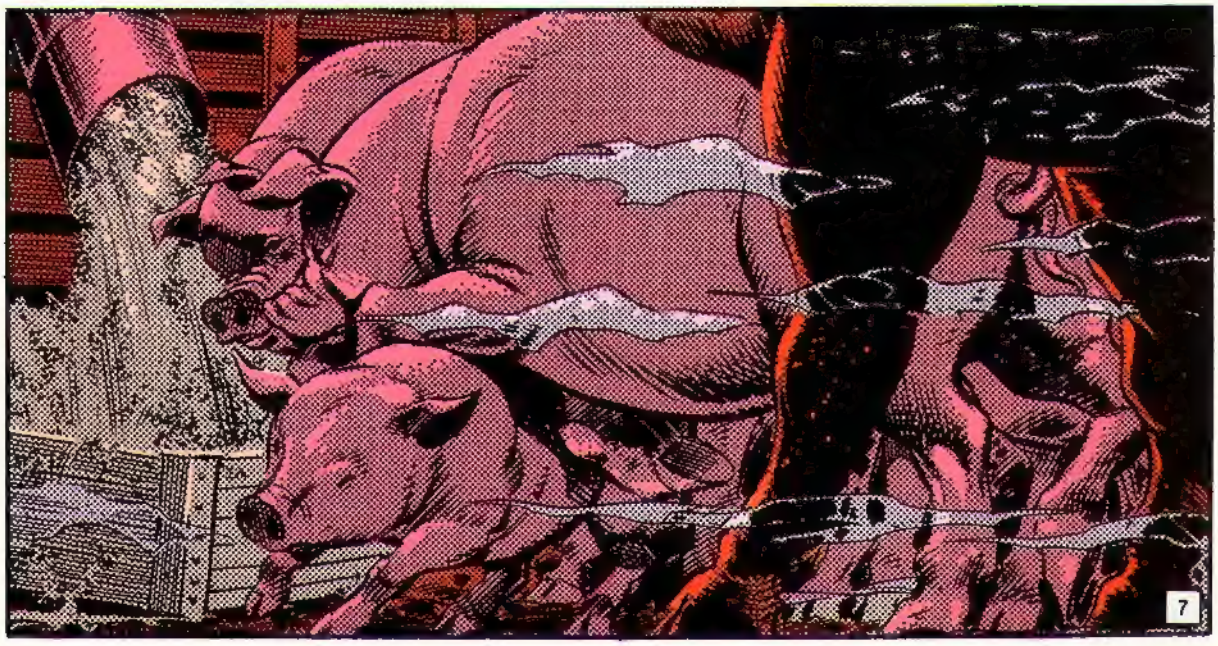

NO, TAD!
YOU PROMISED ME. AFTER THOSE MEN THREATENED YOU--
DON'T YOU SEE, BRENDA? THIS IS MY CHANCE TO END THE GAMBLING--TO MAKE MY LIFE CLEAN.
BUT YOU CAN'T WIN!
I CAN. I'M LUCKY TONIGHT, BRENDA. I CAN FEEL IT!
I GOT YOU TO GO OUT WITH ME AGAIN, DIDN'T I? I GOT YOU TO FORGIVE ME.
HOW MUCH LUCKIER CAN A FELLA BE?
AND HOW IS YOUR BOY DOING, SIR?
LET'S GO CHECK ON THE PLANT.
6

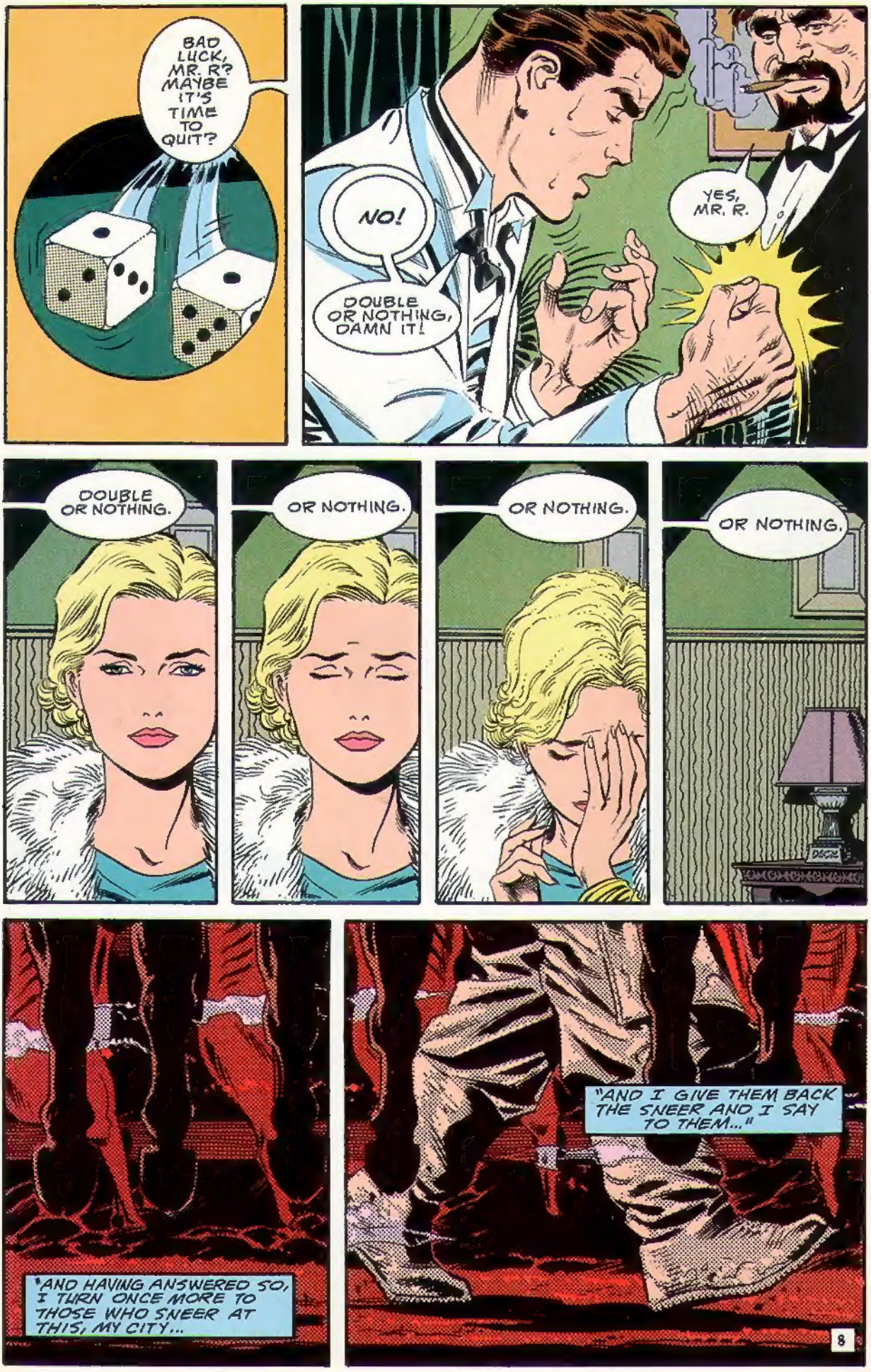
SEVEN AGAIN!

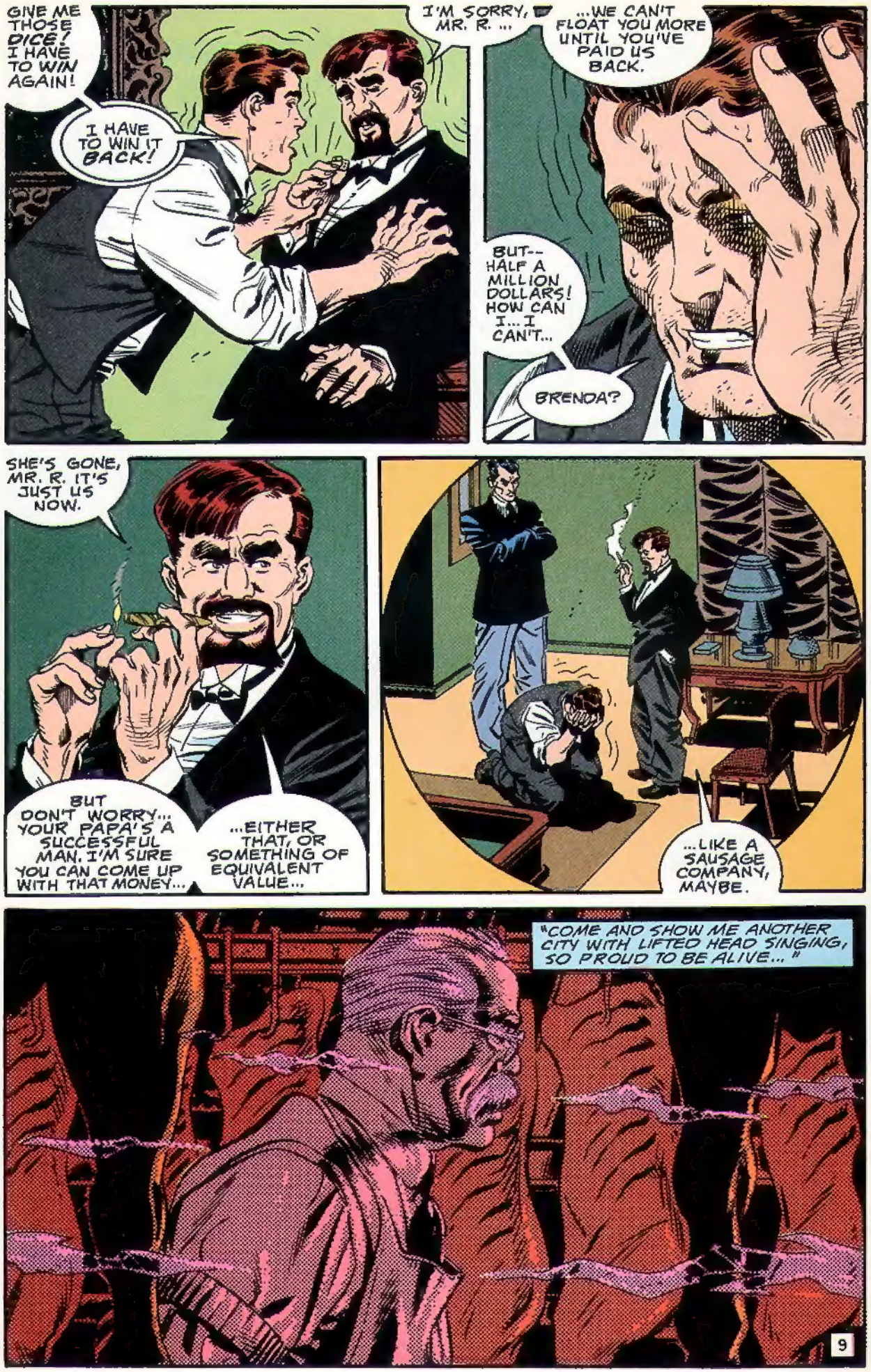
YOU MAY OWE ME MONEY BEFORE TONIGHT'S THROUGH, GEORGIE!
YOUR LUCK CAN'T POSSIBLY KEEP UP LIKE THIS, MR. R.

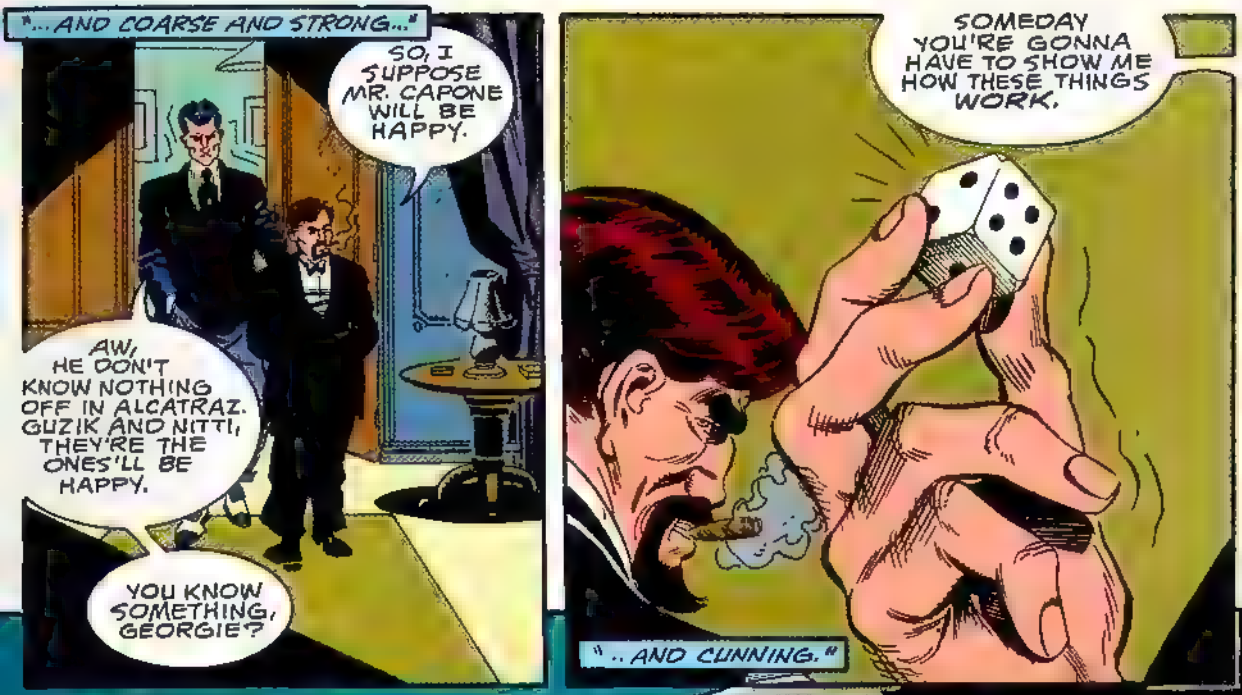
CARE TO BACK THAT UP, GEORGIE? LET'S GO FOR THE BALANCE-- DOUBLE OR NOTHING!
TAD-- PLEASE!
AH, MR. R, YOU'VE CAUGHT ME AGAIN...

GEORGIE KATOMERIS ALWAYS BACKS UP HIS WORDS... CURSE ME FOR A FOOL!




BAD LUCK, MR. R? MAYBE IT'S TIME TO QUIT?
NO!
DOUBLE OR NOTHING, DAMN IT!
YES, MR. R.
DOUBLE OR NOTHING.
OR NOTHING.
OR NOTHING.
OR NOTHING.
"AND HAVING ANSWERED SO, I TURN ONCE MORE TO THOSE WHO SNEER AT THIS, MY CITY...
"AND I GIVE THEM BACK THE SNEER AND I SAY TO THEM..."


GIVE ME THOSE DICE! I HAVE TO WIN AGAIN!
I HAVE TO WIN IT BACK!
I'M SORRY, MR. R. ...
...WE CAN'T FLOAT YOU MORE UNTIL YOU'VE PAID US BACK.
BUT-- HALF A MILLION DOLLARS! HOW CAN I... I CAN'T...
BRENDA?
SHE'S GONE, MR. R. IT'S JUST US NOW.
BUT DON'T WORRY... YOUR PAPA'S A SUCCESSFUL MAN. I'M SURE YOU CAN COME UP WITH THAT MONEY...
...EITHER THAT, OR SOMETHING OF EQUIVALENT VALUE...
...LIKE A SAUSAGE COMPANY, MAYBE.
"COME AND SHOW ME ANOTHER CITY WITH LIFTED HEAD SINGING, SO PROUD TO BE ALIVE... "


"...AND COARSE AND STRONG..."
SO, I SUPPOSE MR. CAPONE WILL BE HAPPY.
AW, HE DON'T KNOW NOTHING OFF IN ALCATRAZ. GUZIK AND NITTI, THEY'RE THE ONES'LL BE HAPPY.
YOU KNOW SOMETHING, GEORGIE?
SOMEDAY YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO SHOW ME HOW THESE THINGS WORK.
"..AND CUNNING."

"FLINGING MAGNETIC CURSES AMID THE TOIL OF PILING JOB UPON JOB, HERE IS A TALL, BOLD SLUGGER SET VIVID AGAINST THE LITTLE, SOFT CITIES." *

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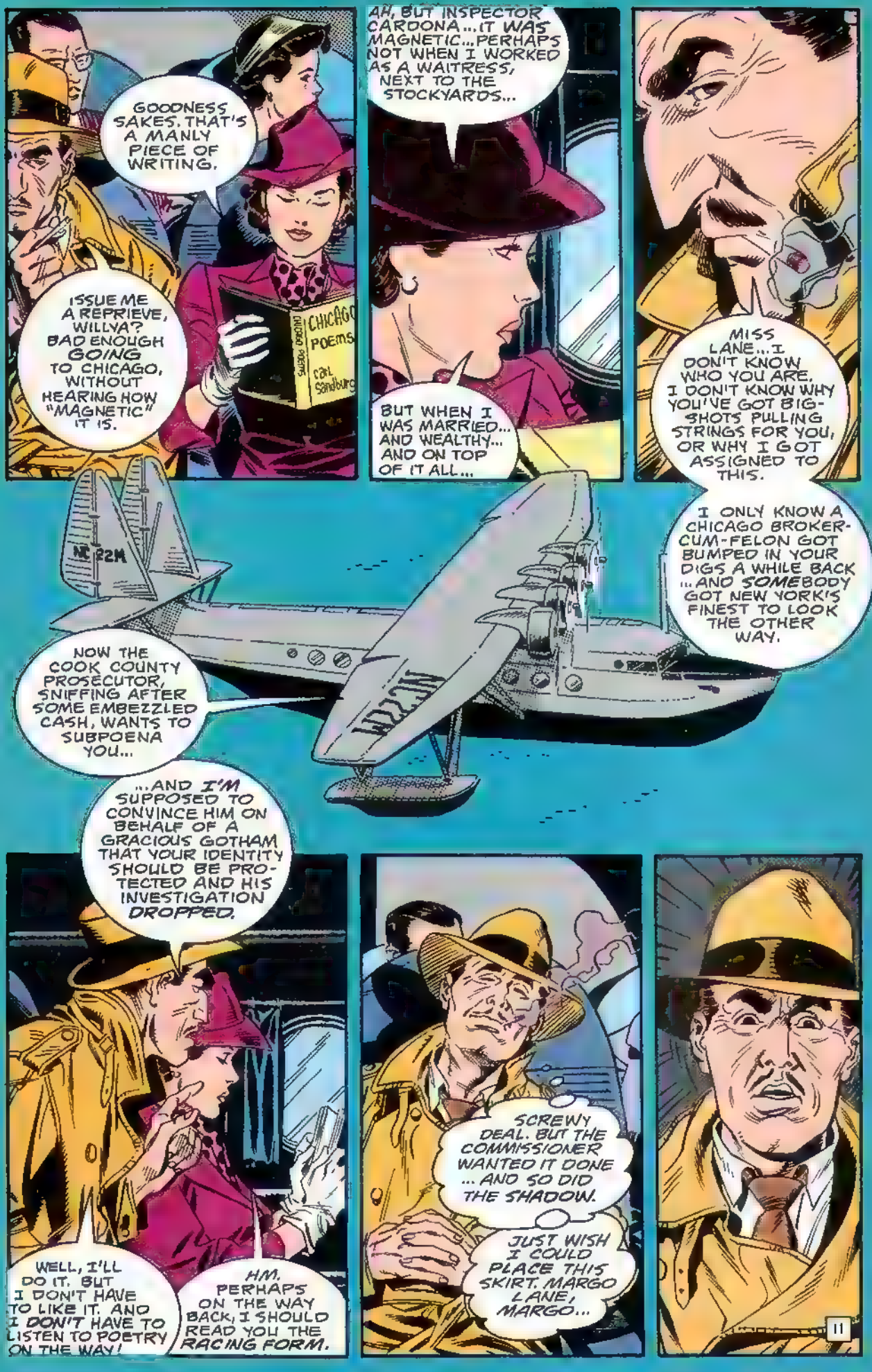
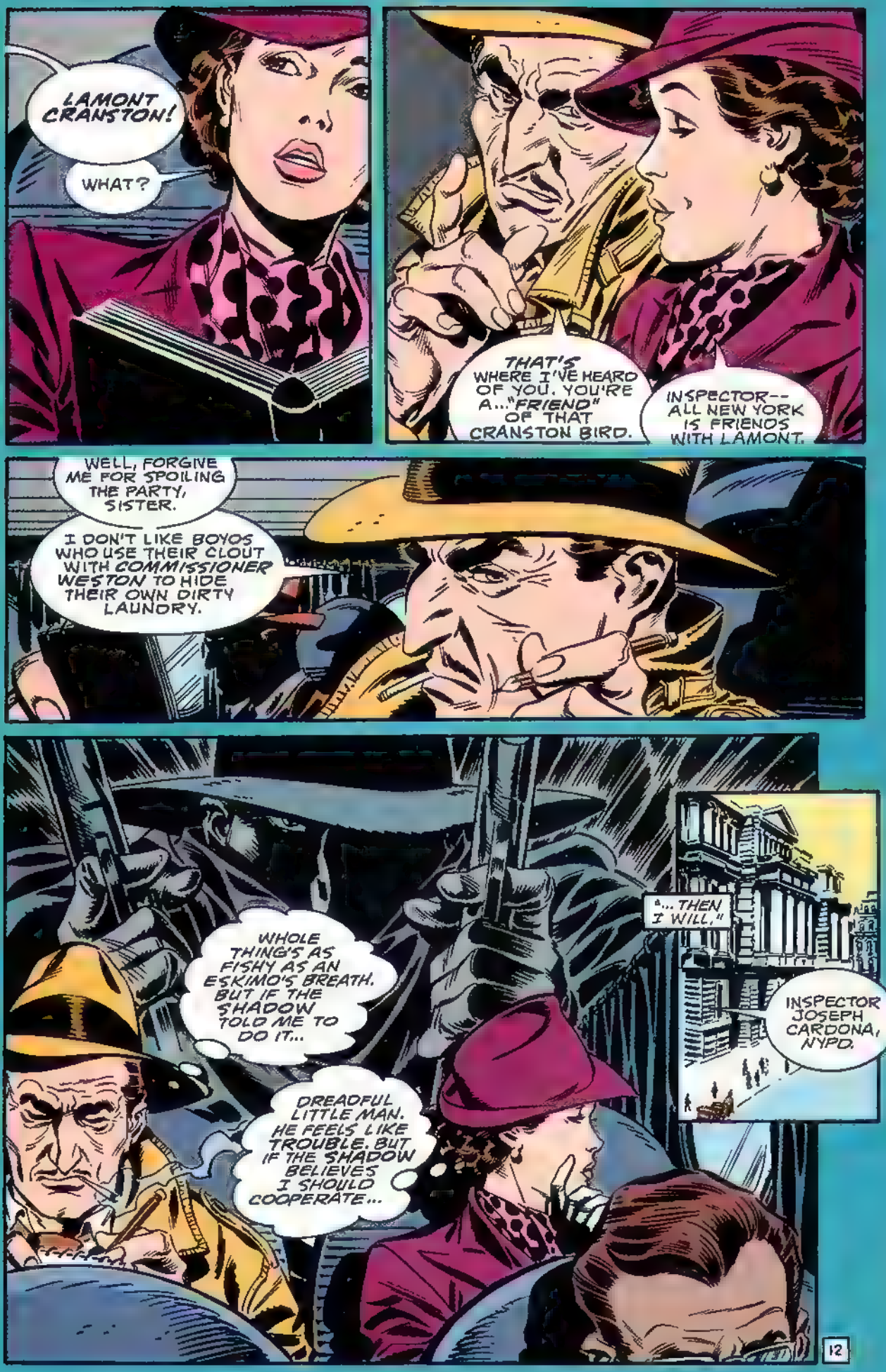
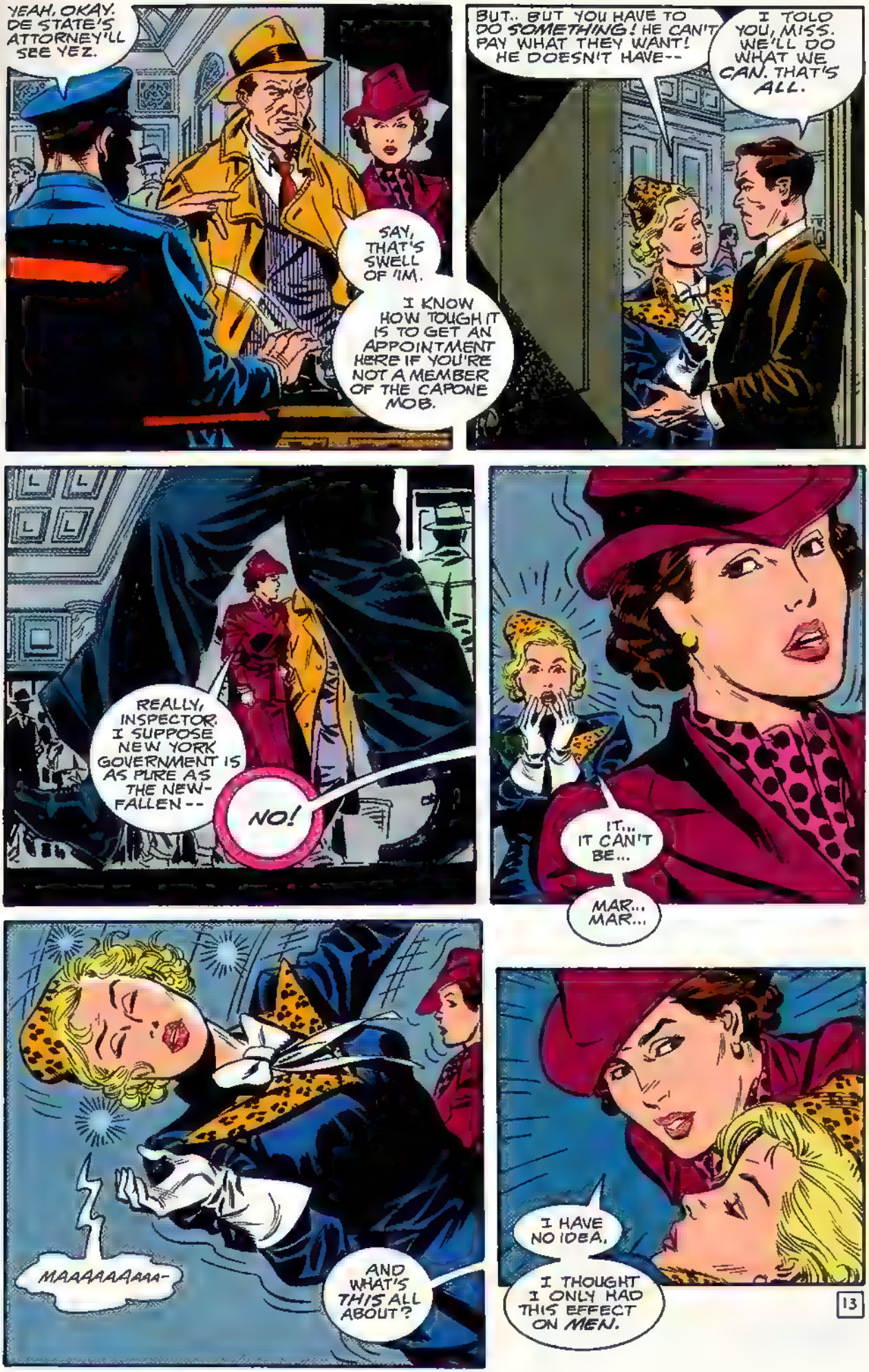

GOODNESS SAKES. THAT'S A MANLY PIECE OF WRITING.
CHICAGO POEMS
CARL SANDBURG
ISSUE ME A REPRIEVE, WILLYA? BAD ENOUGH GOING TO CHICAGO, WITHOUT HEARING HOW "MAGNETIC" IT IS.
AH, BUT INSPECTOR CARDONA... IT WAS MAGNETIC... PERHAPS NOT WHEN I WORKED AS A WAITRESS, NEXT TO THE STOCKYARDS...
BUT WHEN I WAS MARRIED... AND WEALTHY... AND ON TOP OF IT ALL...
MISS LANE... I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'VE GOT BIG-SHOTS PULLING STRINGS FOR YOU, OR WHY I GOT ASSIGNED TO THIS.
I ONLY KNOW A CHICAGO BROKER-CUM-FELON GOT BUMPED IN YOUR DIGS A WHILE BACK ... AND SOMEBODY GOT NEW YORK'S FINEST TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY.
NC22M
NOW THE COOK COUNTY PROSECUTOR, SNIFFING AFTER SOME EMBEZZLED CASH, WANTS TO SUBPOENA YOU...
...AND I'M SUPPOSED TO CONVINCE HIM ON BEHALF OF A GRACIOUS GOTHAM THAT YOUR IDENTITY SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND HIS INVESTIGATION DROPPED.
WELL, I'LL DO IT. BUT I DON'T HAVE TO LIKE IT. AND I DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO POETRY ON THE WAY!
HM. PERHAPS ON THE WAY BACK, I SHOULD READ YOU THE RACING FORM.
SCREWY DEAL. BUT THE COMMISSIONER WANTED IT DONE ... AND SO DID THE SHADOW.
JUST WISH I COULD PLACE THIS SKIRT. MARGO LANE, MARGO...


LAMONT CRANSTON!
WHAT?
THAT'S WHERE I'VE HEARD OF YOU. YOU'RE A..."FRIEND" OF THAT CRANSTON BIRD.
INSPECTOR-- ALL NEW YORK IS FRIENDS WITH LAMONT.
WELL, FORGIVE ME FOR SPOILING THE PARTY, SISTER.
I DON'T LIKE BOYOS WHO USE THEIR CLOUT WITH COMMISSIONER WESTON TO HIDE THEIR OWN DIRTY LAUNDRY.
WHOLE THING'S AS FISHY AS AN ESKIMO'S BREATH. BUT IF THE SHADOW TOLD ME TO DO IT...
DREADFUL LITTLE MAN. HE FEELS LIKE TROUBLE. BUT, IF THE SHADOW BELIEVES I SHOULD COOPERATE...
"...THEN I WILL."
INSPECTOR JOSEPH CARDONA, NYPD.

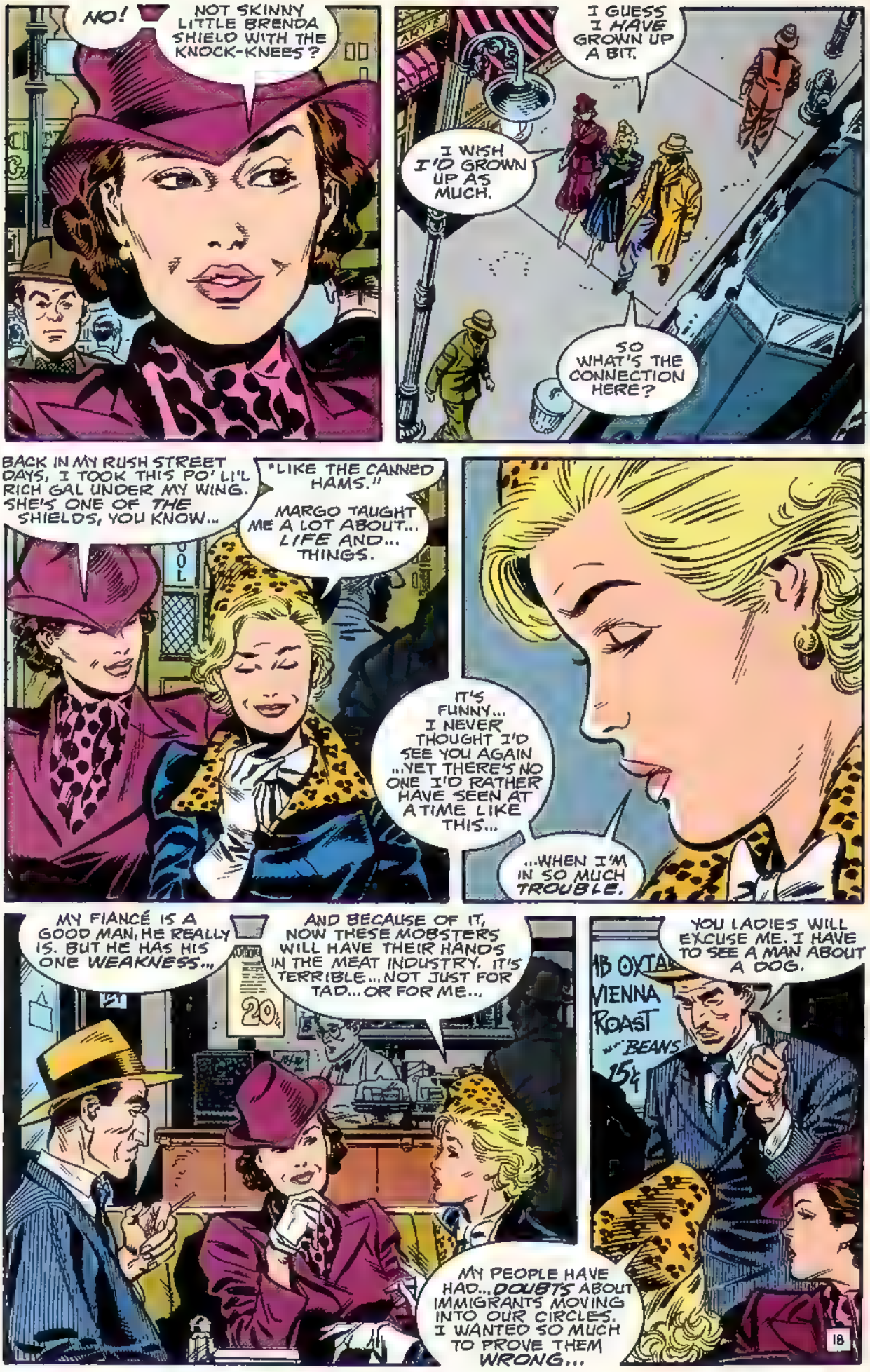

YEAH, OKAY. DE STATE'S ATTORNEY'LL SEE YEZ.
SAY, THAT'S SWELL OF 'IM.
I KNOW HOW TOUGH IT IS TO GET AN APPOINTMENT HERE IF YOU'RE NOT A MEMBER OF THE CAPONE MOB.
BUT.. BUT YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING! HE CAN'T PAY WHAT THEY WANT! HE DOESN'T HAVE--
I TOLD YOU, MISS. WE'LL DO WHAT WE CAN. THAT'S ALL.
REALLY, INSPECTOR. I SUPPOSE NEW YORK GOVERNMENT IS AS PURE AS THE NEW-FALLEN--
NO!
IT... IT CAN'T BE...
MAR... MAR...
MAAAAAAaaa-
AND WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
I HAVE NO IDEA.
I THOUGHT I ONLY HAD THIS EFFECT ON MEN.

NOW SEE HERE, GEORGIE! WE FELLOWS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SQUARE-SHOOTERS WITH YOU!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO A CHAP LIKE TAD.
SO WHY CAN'T I?
AND DON'T THINK WE'LL BE INTIMIDATED BY YOUR GORILLAS!
WE PLAYED VARSITY FOOTBALL FOR NORTHWESTERN! AND WE WILD-CATS FIGHT FOR OUR OWN!
YOU KNOW... I ALWAYS WISHED I COULD PLAY FOOTBALL.
WHUK
WHUUUU
CHMR
14

SNK
KKHH
BOOM
HYEEEEEEE
I GUESS I WAS JUST NEVER TOUGH ENOUGH FOR SPORTS.
NOW TELL YOUR FRIEND TO KEEP HIS MOUTH SHUT AND GET US OUR MONEY.
YOU BETTER GO TELL MR. NITTI ABOUT THIS.
YEAH.
BOY, WHAT ARE THEY TEACHIN' THESE KIDS IN COLLEGE NOW, ANY-WAYS?
15

SHE WHAT?!
THIS WAS YOUR PLAN, GUZIK! I WANT THE RECORD TO SHOW THAT IT WAS YOUR PLAN!
JUST TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED, FRANK.
THAT WAS MULREADY AT CITY HALL. HE SAYS ROMANOWSKI'S TOMATO WAS IN THERE, SPILLING EVERYTHING, TRYING TO BRING IN THE COPS.
AND THE COPS SAID...?
THEY GAVE HER THE AIR! WHAT DO YOU THINK--I'M PAYING FOR STUPID COPS?
BUT SHE'S BRENDA SHIELD. GET IT--SHIELD? LIKE THE MEAT-PACKING FAMILY? LIKE THE CANNED HAMS?
AAA, WHAT DO YOU CARE?
I DON'T SEE TROUBLE HERE. WE WANT TO TAKE OVER A POLISH-OWNED FACTORY.
THE SHIELDS ARE BIG ANGLO-SAXON MONEY. THEY DON'T BOTHER WITH "IMMIGRANT TYPES"... LIKE US.
THEY DON'T HAVE TO BOTHER. THOSE PEOPLE GET PUBLICITY, JAKE. PUBLICITY FOR US IS ALWAYS BAD.
WE HAD THAT PUNK PAYING US CASH, BIG INTEREST. WE SHOULD HAVE LEFT IT--
NO. IT'S NOT PROHIBITION ANYMORE, NITTI. WE NEED TO DIVERSIFY. NOT JUST WHORES AND DOPE. LEGITIMATE BUSINESS.
THIS WAY WE CAN DO IT--WITH NO BLOOD.
16

MAYBE BLOOD IS WHAT WE NEED.
I WANT TO CALL A MEETING TOMORROW WITH GEORGIE KATOMERIS AND HIS PARTNERS.
TOMORROW I CAN'T. THE DAUGHTER OF A FRIEND OF MINE IS HAVING HER BAT-MITZVAH.
WHAT?!
YOU'RE GOING TO MISS A MEETING FOR THAT?!
I'M A BUSINESSMAN, FRANK. I'M A COMMUNITY FIGURE. I HAVE OBLIGATIONS.
HIYA, MR. GUZIK.
I HEARD ABOUT THE LITTLE NUMBER THAT SQUEALED. WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO ABOUT HER?
WE'RE GOING TO SOLVE THIS WITHOUT YOUR SERVICES.
IF YOU SAY SO, MR. GUZIK...
...BUT YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME.


NO!
NOT SKINNY LITTLE BRENDA SHIELD WITH THE KNOCK-KNEES?
I GUESS I HAVE GROWN UP A BIT.
I WISH I'D GROWN UP AS MUCH.
SO WHAT'S THE CONNECTION HERE?
BACK IN MY RUSH STREET DAYS, I TOOK THIS PO' LI'L RICH GAL UNDER MY WING. SHE'S ONE OF THE SHIELDS, YOU KNOW...
"LIKE THE CANNED HAMS."
MARGO TAUGHT ME A LOT ABOUT... LIFE AND... THINGS.
IT'S FUNNY... I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE YOU AGAIN ...YET THERE'S NO ONE I'D RATHER HAVE SEEN AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
...WHEN I'M IN SO MUCH TROUBLE.
MY FIANCÉ IS A GOOD MAN, HE REALLY IS. BUT HE HAS HIS ONE WEAKNESS...
AND BECAUSE OF IT, NOW THESE MOBSTERS WILL HAVE THEIR HANDS IN THE MEAT INDUSTRY. IT'S TERRIBLE... NOT JUST FOR TAD... OR FOR ME...
YOU LADIES WILL EXCUSE ME. I HAVE TO SEE A MAN ABOUT A DOG.
VIENNA ROAST BEANS
MY PEOPLE HAVE HAD... DOUBTS ABOUT IMMIGRANTS MOVING INTO OUR CIRCLES. I WANTED SO MUCH TO PROVE THEM WRONG...
18

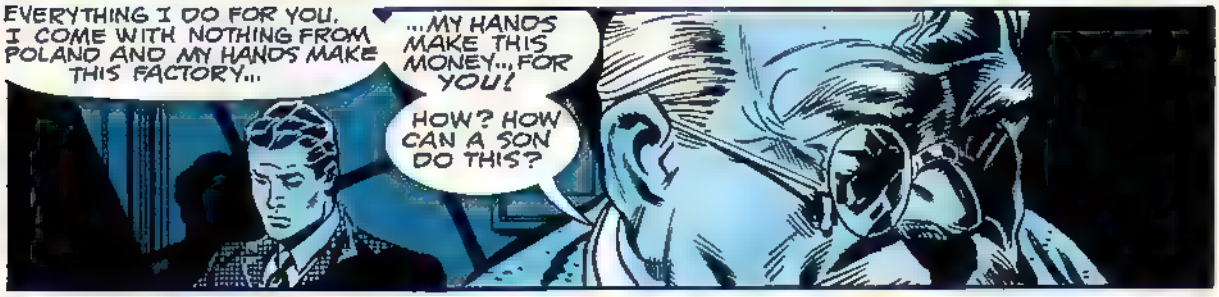
AND NOW...
NOW'S MY CHANCE.
WH-WHAT?
OH. THAT IS. I... I NEED TO CALL A FRIEND... TO RE-SCHEDULE AN APPOINT-MENT...
BURBANK--CARDONA HERE. TIP THE CHIEF-- GANG HIJINKS IN CHI-TOWN. HERE'S THE GOODS...
BURBANK? THIS IS MARGO. TELL THE CHIEF THAT I'VE UNCOVERED AN UNDERWORLD SCHEME IN CHICAGO...
OH!
YEAH. THAT'S JUST WHAT I SAY, MISS LANE.

CHICK HECK, MISS SHIELD. CHICAGO NEWS SERVICE. I COULDN'T HELP OVERHEARING ABOUT YOUR FIANCÉ. MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU.
W-WHY, I... I REALLY DON'T BELIEVE I SHOULD DISCUSS IT WITH THE...
SHOOT, I'M NOT THE PRESS, MISS SHIELD. I'M JUST A KNIGHT IN SHINING FEDORA...
...THAT'S ALL.
NOW, YOU CALLED THE GENTLEMAN "TAD," SEEMS TO ME "SAUSAGE KING" ROMANOWSKI HAS A SON TAD. WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL A "PRINCE OF THE WEINERS."
WHO AND WHY I TELEPHONE IS REALLY NONE OF YOUR--
HOLD IT, HOLD IT.
REALLY, MR. HECK, I--I--I--I--
OKAY, CUTIE--
--OUT OF MY SEAT!
I CAN SPOT YOUR TYPE AND I'M ONLY TELLING YOU ONCE-- THERE'S NO HEADLINE HERE!
YOUR TYPE'S EASY, TOO, OCCIFER...
...AND SO'S YOUR ACCENT, PURE MULBERRY STREET.
CHICAGO HOGS AND NEW YORK BULLS? THIS DOES SMELL LIKE NEWS.
20

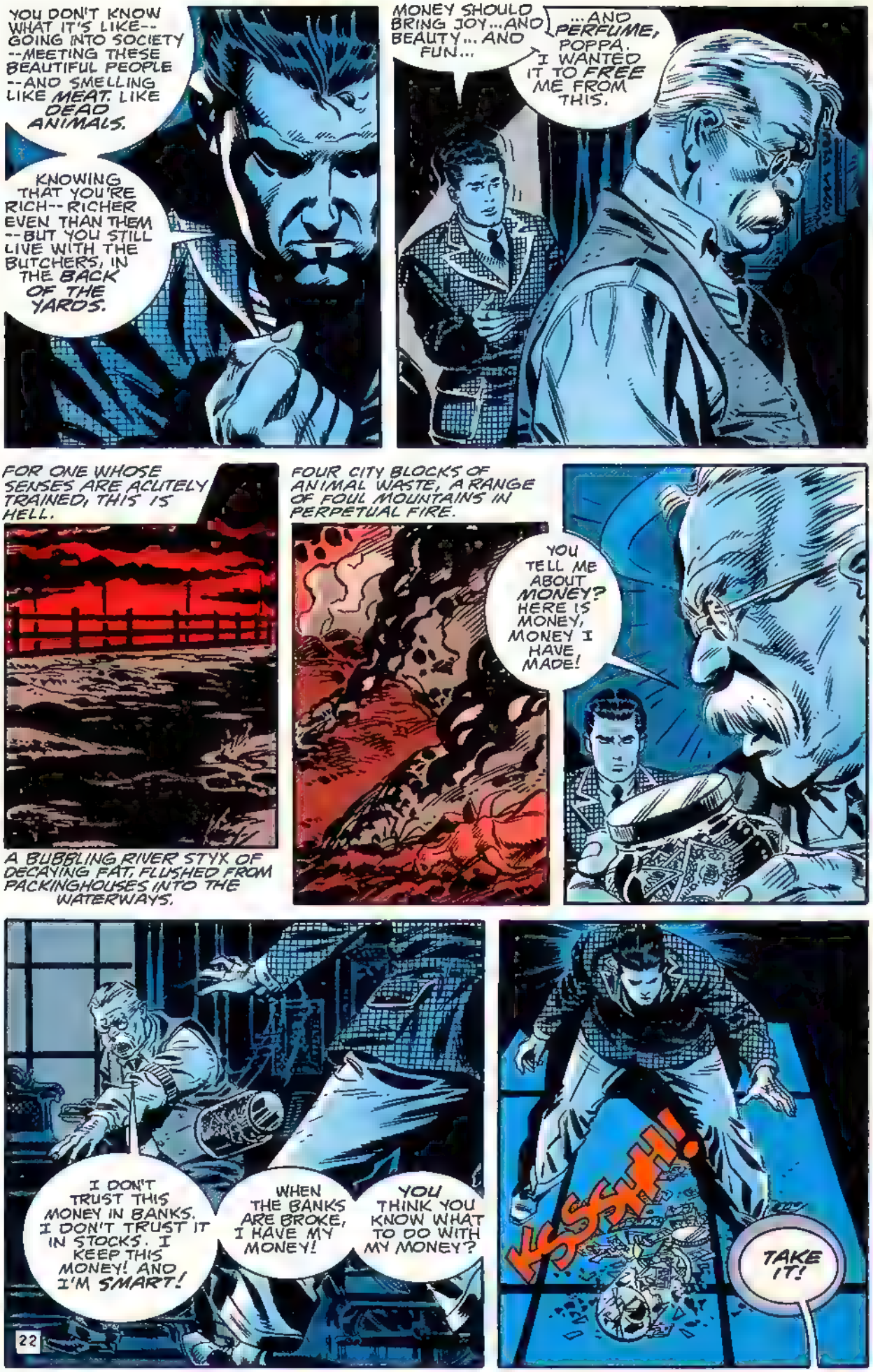
THE STENCH HANGS LIKE A CURTAIN AROUND THE YARDS, TURNING BACK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE ANY CHOICE ABOUT BEING THERE.

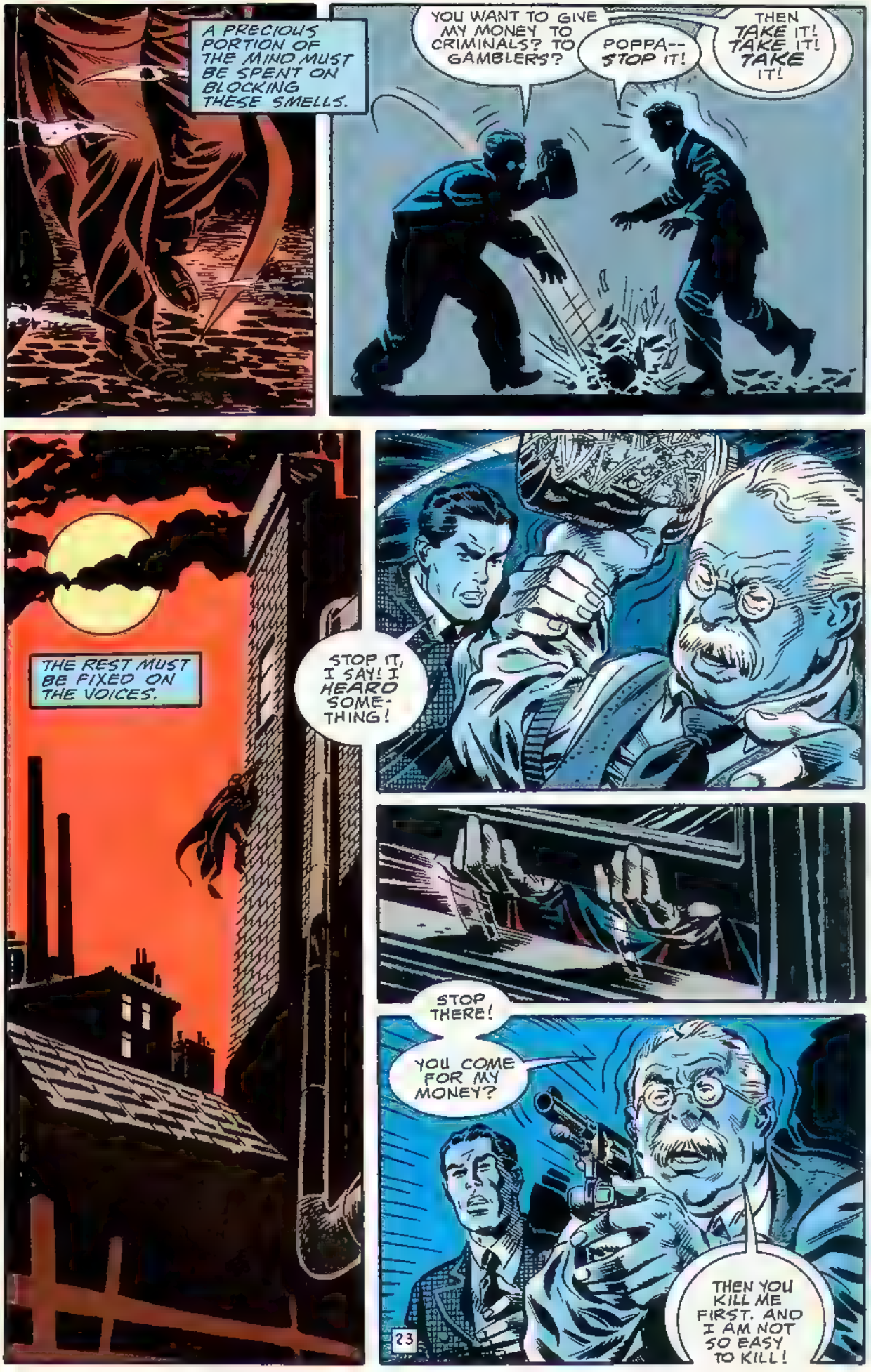
HOW CAN YOU DO THIS TO ME?
I'M SORRY, POPPA. I NEVER WANTED THIS.

IT IS THE STENCH OF A HUNDRED THOUSAND BEASTS AND A HUNDRED THOUSAND DEATHS.


EVERYTHING I DO FOR YOU. I COME WITH NOTHING FROM POLAND AND MY HANDS MAKE THIS FACTORY...
...MY HANDS MAKE THIS MONEY... FOR YOU!
HOW? HOW CAN A SON DO THIS?

OF A HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE AND A HUNDRED THOUSAND LIVES.


YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE-- GOING INTO SOCIETY --MEETING THESE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE --AND SMELLING LIKE MEAT. LIKE DEAD ANIMALS.
KNOWING THAT YOU'RE RICH-- RICHER EVEN THAN THEM --BUT YOU STILL LIVE WITH THE BUTCHERS, IN THE BACK OF THE YARDS.
MONEY SHOULD BRING JOY... AND BEAUTY... AND FUN...
...AND PERFUME, POPPA. I WANTED IT TO FREE ME FROM THIS.
FOR ONE WHOSE SENSES ARE ACUTELY TRAINED, THIS IS HELL.
A BUBBLING RIVER STYX OF DECAYING FAT, FLUSHED FROM PACKINGHOUSES INTO THE WATERWAYS.
FOUR CITY BLOCKS OF ANIMAL WASTE, A RANGE OF FOUL MOUNTAINS IN PERPETUAL FIRE.
YOU TELL ME ABOUT MONEY? HERE IS MONEY, MONEY I HAVE MADE!
I DON'T TRUST THIS MONEY IN BANKS. I DON'T TRUST IT IN STOCKS. I KEEP THIS MONEY! AND I'M SMART!
WHEN THE BANKS ARE BROKE, I HAVE MY MONEY!
YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH MY MONEY?
WHSH!
TAKE IT!
22


A PRECIOUS PORTION OF THE MIND MUST BE SPENT ON BLOCKING THESE SMELLS.
YOU WANT TO GIVE MY MONEY TO CRIMINALS? TO GAMBLERS?
POPPA-- STOP IT!
THEN TAKE IT! TAKE IT! TAKE IT!
THE REST MUST BE FIXED ON THE VOICES.
STOP IT, I SAY! I HEARD SOMETHING!
STOP THERE!
YOU COME FOR MY MONEY?
THEN YOU KILL ME FIRST. AND I AM NOT SO EASY TO KILL!
23

NOR AM I, MR. ROMANOWSKI.
NOR AM I.
EDUARDO BARRETO
NEXT: BUTCHERS!

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Dear Gerry, Brian, and assorted artists,

Great story and a nice change of pace. It's fun to have fun at the expense of Orson Welles while paying homage to the great genius of American theater, radio, and film. But "Grover Mills"? It took me a while to get the joke, but I did, and boy, does it hurt. Does this mean Martians landed in Orson Wells, NJ in the "Shadow Universe"?

Let's tell the audience that Anthony Tollin, besides being a great color man, is the author of a noted work on the Shadow. It's good to know that he'll keep you honest, Gerry. Can't wait to meet Shiwan Khan. See you in the shadows.

Simon Del Monte
Queens, NY

Mr. Tollin is, indeed, the contributing writer/editor (with Shadow creator Walter Gibson) of The Shadow Scrapbook, *an engaging, informative—and massively illustrated—history of the Shadow in the pulps and comics, on the radio and the silver screen. Anthony is obviously our resident expert on all things "shadowy" and has a sizable and impressive collection of Shadow arcana that he has dipped into more than once to answer some question or the other about the Dark Avenger. We appreciate Anthony's palette, and the fact that he "keeps us honest," but don't get him started on dachshunds, though. Trust me.*

Orson Wells, NJ? Really, Simon, that sort of pun is beneath even us!

* * * * *

Dear Shadow folks,

Finally, an issue easily worthy of comparison to the O'Neil/Kaluta stories! "...To Cloud Men's Minds" in issue #7 was a tale that would've made Charles Foster Kane proud. Some great artwork, too. Rosebud.

So long,
Tim Dwyer

Thanks, Tim, but do you mean to say that this was the first issue you enjoyed this much? Oh, well, we'll keep trying. Rosebud.

* * * * *

Dear Brian,

I enjoyed your tribute to the radio days of the Shadow in issue #7. Although the various comics series by DC have used the Shadow's pulp background as the basis for the stories, characters, and the type of adventures that will occur, there is no denying that the Shadow's start was with radio.

"...To Cloud Men's Minds" contained many elements of the Shadow's radio background. Grover Mills and Agatha Goodlove are Orson Welles and Agnes Moorehead done "roman a clef." Greene Coal, Combined Broadcasting, and WOW are Blue Coal, Mutual Broadcasting, and (Shadow flagship station) WOR in different hues. Gerard Jones gave a good, solid story to boot, complete with a proxy hero, the Shadow divining the ways of criminals and resolving the way the radio Shadow would contain many differences from the pulp version while existing in the world of the pulp Shadow.

The artwork was something else this time due to the use of two different artists. Rick Magyar's smooth style and Frank Springer's rougher look at least weren't as sharp a contrast as has often been the case in other books where this sort of "shared work" situation has been employed.

John Clark's lettering was top grade. It gave a good impression of how various voices would sound to the ear. Now, if he went just a tad overboard in giving the impression of street traffic, fun houses, et al., the story would have been a bit closer to being an illustrated radio play (or a tale from the Will Eisner studio).

As for Anthony Tollin, a good-as-usual job on the coloring and a wonderful job on the article "Voices from the Shadows." I have a slight disagreement with it, however. After being informed that a revamped radio series starring Orson Welles debuted on September 26, 1937, it's stated "Appearing with the 22-year-old Welles on the Shadow broadcasts were many of the performers who would join him in the famous Mercury Theatre troupe that would revolutionize theatre, radio and film."

While the last two parts are correct ("Mercury Theatre On The Air" debuted over CBS Radio in July of 1938, and "Citizen Kane" followed two years later), the Mercury Theatre had been formed earlier in 1937. In fact, the Mutual network began broadcasting a seven-part serial of "Les Misérables" by the Mercury Theatre on July 23, 1937. Mr. Welles was joined at the microphone by Agnes Moorehead, Ray Collins, Everett Sloane, and Frank Readick in performing Victor Hugo's epic. No doubt that during the three weeks following the conclusion of that serial, Orson Welles and Mutual would discuss doing another series, with the revamped Shadow being the chosen project.

This is a minor quibble, to be sure (although I seem to be making a mountain from an anthill). Tollin's indexing of the Shadow's radio broadcasts for *The Shadow Scrapbook* has straightened out much confusion over dates and titles of shows for various companies (and my humble collection). And his knowledge of the Shadow easily surpasses my own.

Sincerely yours,
Hurricane Heeran
Associated Editor
Radio & Records
Los Angeles, CA

You are correct as to the hard detail of time, Hurricane, but in light of the fact that Tony's statement invokes no chronological sequence, he's right, too. The Mercury Theatre was an ever-evolving project of Mr. Welles and his many talented cohorts. As Tony says, they joined him on the Shadow radio show and on many other revolutionary theatrical and film projects.

Thanks for the kind words—and for your enjoyment of our efforts.

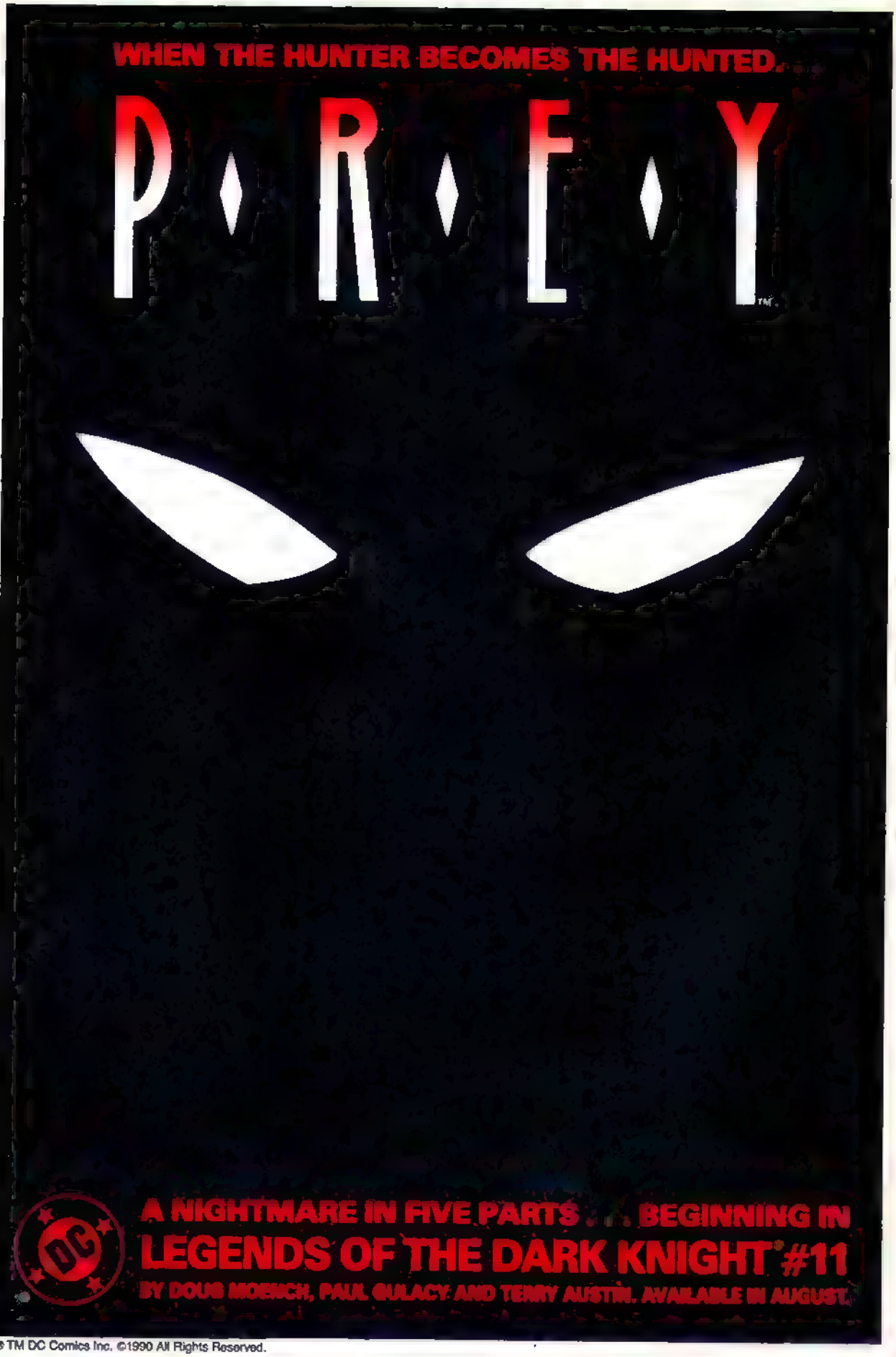
* * * * *

Well, that wraps it for another issue. Join us next time as the Shadow continues his Chicago adventure and tries to finish what Eliot Ness and the Untouchables started—the destruction of the Mob!

Meantime, enjoy the following Shadow pin-up courtesy of artist Grant Miehm, who brings us a battle on some familiar turf for our shadowy protagonist.

'Bye for now.

—Brian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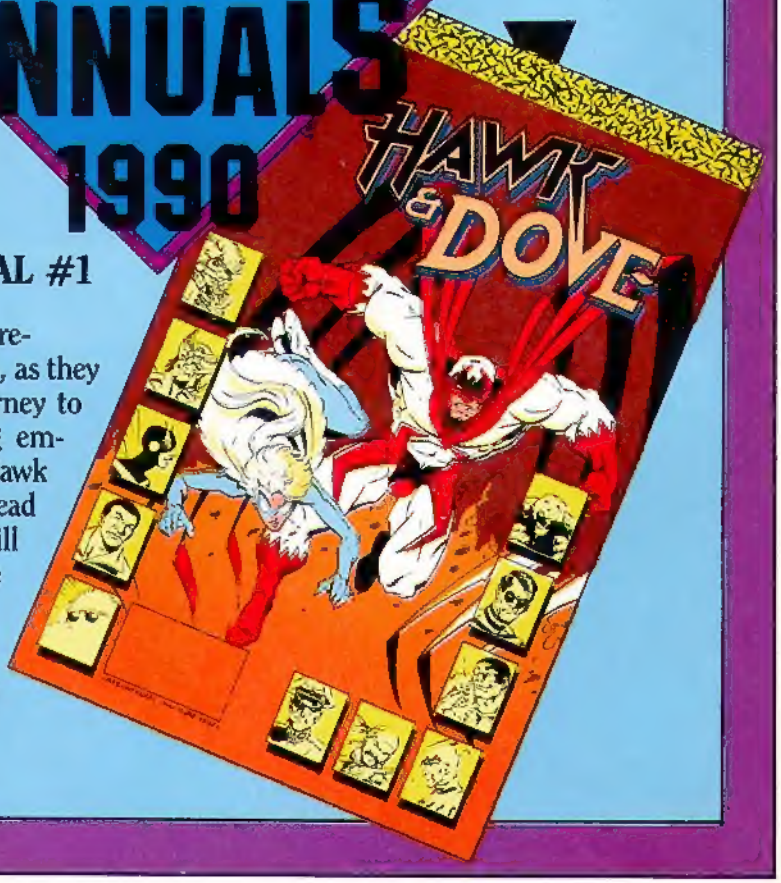

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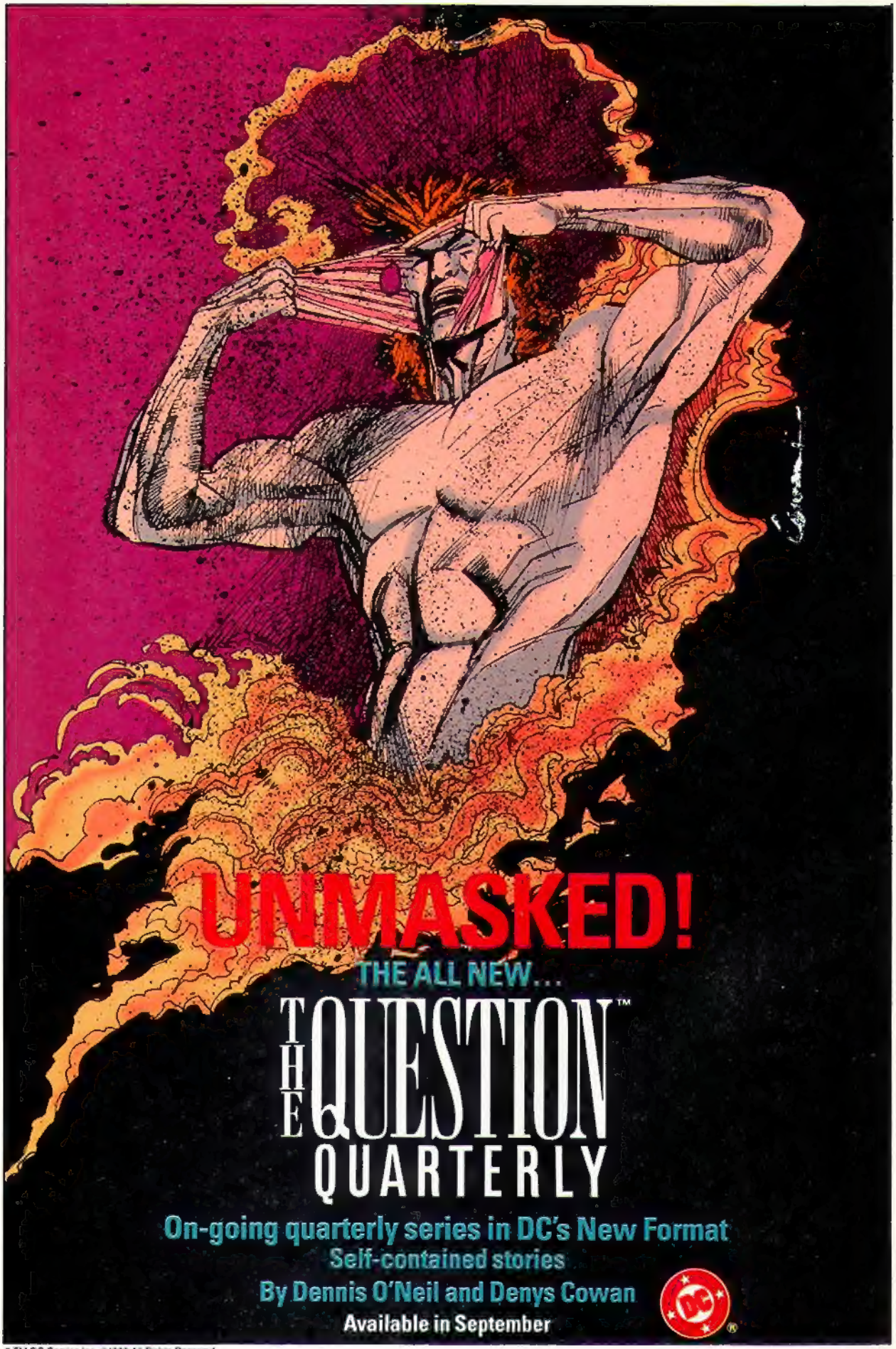

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